



## **Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks**

Region 2 Headquarters  
3201 Spurgin Road  
Missoula, MT 59804  
Phone 406-542-5500

April 11, 2013

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed you will find for your review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to enter into a lease of hay on its Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife Management Area (BCWMA). The proposed BCWMA-Vannoy Ranch lease would allow the Vannoy Ranch to annually hay a 15-acre, weed-infested, non-native hay meadow on the BCWMA in exchange for annual weed treatment, fence removal, and irrigation management services on the WMA. The lease would be effective from May 15, 2013 to August 31, 2018.

The EA may also be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula 59804; by phoning 406-542-5540; by emailing [shrose@mt.gov](mailto:shrose@mt.gov); or by viewing FWP's Internet website <http://fwp.mt.gov> ("News," then "Public Notices"). Comments may be made online on the EA webpage or may be directed by mail or email to the addresses above. Comments must be received by FWP no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 3, 2013.

As part of the decision making process under the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), I expect to issue the Decision Notice for this EA very soon after the end of the comment period. The Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission has the final decision-making authority for FWP land leases, and the Commission will be asked to render its decision on this proposal at its May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting in Helena.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Vivaca Crowser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Vivaca Crowser  
Acting Regional Supervisor

ML/sr